

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 6. Accordingly, claim 6 has been canceled.

Further, claims 2, 8, and 10 have been rewritten in independent form by incorporating therein the subject matter of claim 1 as recited before the present amendment.

Also, claims 3 and 9 have been amended to insert “an” before “orientation processing step” and “nm” after “400,” respectively.

It is submitted that these changes do not raise any new issues. Accordingly, entry and consideration of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 and 7-17 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is the only independent claim.

In the Office Action, claims 3 and 9 are objected to. It is alleged in the Office Action that, in claim 3, the expression “orientation processing step” should be preceded by the article “an,” and in claim 9, that the number “400” should be followed by its unit “nm.”

Claims 3 and 9 have been amended as suggested in the Office Action. Accordingly, it is submitted that the objections should be withdrawn.

Next, in the Office Action, claims 1, 7, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by US 6,761,452 to Moravec (“Moravec”), claims 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Moravec in view of US 20020084447 to Taguchi et al. (“Taguchi”), and claims 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Moravec.

Amendment
Serial No. 10/681,384
Attorney Docket No. 032009

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 6, which is not included in these rejections. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejections should be withdrawn.

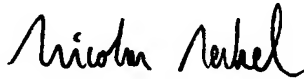
In conclusion, the invention as presently claimed is patentable. It is believed that the claims are in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

In the event there is, in the Examiner's opinion, any outstanding issue and such issue may be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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